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DEPT FOR IO

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [SOCI](#) [KDEM](#) [PHUM](#) [KJUS](#) [GT](#)
SUBJECT: GUATEMALA REQUESTS USG SUPPORT FOR CANDIDACY FOR
UN COMMITTEE ON RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

¶1. Embassy received a diplomatic note from the Guatemalan Embassy in Washington, notifying Embassy of Guatemala's candidacy for the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and requesting USG support during elections in January 2008. We understand that Department already received the note directly from the Guatemalan Embassy. Below is the original text of the note.

¶2. BEGIN TEXT

The Embassy of the Republic of Guatemala presents its compliments to the Honorable Department of State and has the honor to inform that the Government of the Republic of Guatemala has decided to submit the candidacy of Mr. Francisco Cali Tzay to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), during the elections that will take place on January 2008.

Hoping to reinforce and enrich cooperation between CERD and the Republic of Guatemala, the Government of Guatemala will be grateful to the Government of the United States of America for the precious support of its candidacy to the CERD.

The Embassy of Guatemala avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Honorable Department of State the assurances of its highest consideration.

Embassy of Guatemala, Washington, D.C.
October 30, 2007

END TEXT

¶3. Indigenous leader Cali Tzay served as Guatemala's first Presidential Commissioner Against Discrimination and Racism and as Director of Indigenous Affairs at the Center for Legal Action on Human Rights (CALDH). He also served as President of the Board of Directors of the International Indian Treaty Council (CITI), and has lobbied on indigenous issues within the UN system and the international community. He founded the Union of the Mayan People of Guatemala (UPMAG) in 1995.
Derham